menced in Thulam last. The mechanical equipment for the filter plant is under erection. Work on the low level reservoir and settling tanks will be started soon. The pipes for the town distribution system are expected to arrive shortly. The work is providing employment for about 2,000 skilled and unskilled labourers daily.

Electric Supply Schemes.

24. Inclusive of the outlay of Rs. 1·17 lakhs in 1105, the expenditure on the Trivandrum Electric Supply Scheme till the end of that year amounted to Rs. 5·31 lakhs. With the addition of the fourth generating set, the present capacity of the power station is 550 B. H. P. The total number of consumers has risen from 632 at the end of 1105 to 730 at the end of Dhanu 1106. A license has been issued to provide a scheme for the electrification of the Nagercoil town. The Alleppey Municipality has applied for the issue of a license for the electric supply to that town. The preliminary works in connection with the electrification of the Kottayam Municipality under a license already issued are in progress and estimates for the lighting of six miles of roads in the town at the cost of the Municipal Council have been sanctioned.

Railway.

25. When addressing you last year, I communicated to you the assurance that had been given me by the Railway Engineer that the work on the Tampanur Central Station and the bridges would be completed before the end of 1930 and that the first train on the extension line would be run before to-day. The progress anticipated by Mr. Marini has not, however been attained. The work on the main line and the bridges has been completed and ballast trains have been running for some time past. The Central Station building is making good progress. The extension is expected to be complete in all respects and ready for opening by the end of the current Malabar year. There was an outlay of Rs. 3·61 lakhs on the extension, thus bringing up the total expenditure thereon at the end of 1105 to Rs. 11·16 lakhs.

Village Panchayats.

26. Rules under the Village Panchayat Regulation were passed in August 1930. The three Dewan Peishkars have been appointed *ex-officio* Registrars under the Regulation and proposals have been received for the constitution of Panchayats in some selected villages. These proposals are under consideration.

Public Health.

27. The general health of the people has been satisfactory. There was no cholera in epidemic form during the year; but small-pox was prevalent in some localities, especially in the municipal towns of Alleppey and Trivandrum; and recently there has been a recrudescence of the disease in some parts of the State. Vaccination is being vigorously carried on in the affected areas, and the Trivandrum Municipality and the Sanitary Department have been given additional temporary

vaccinators. Public Health activities under the auspices of the Rockefeller Foundation are being continued. Dr. M. K. Gopala Pillai returned after his training in public health work in America and after securing the degree of Dr. P. H. of the Johns Hopkins University. He has been appointed Assistant to Dr. Jacocks, the Honorary Advisor to Government on public health matters. It is proposed to start epidemiological and vital statistics work under Dr. Gopala Pillai's supervision in the Vilavancode taluk. On the return of Dr. N. Krishnan Tampi, the other scholar, who too has secured the doctorate degree in Public Health, it is contemplated to start health unit work. For entomological work in connection with malaria, filariasis and plague, steps have been taken to secure on loan from the Government of India the services of a trained Medical Entomologist. For maternity and child-welfare work, two lady medical diploma-holders have been selected for training in Ceylon. The hook-worm survey carried on since Makaram 1105 has disclosed a very high percentage of infection. A dozen treatment centres have been fixed in each taluk for conducting mass treatment for hook-worm, and the treatment will soon be started on the completion of the training of the staff and the arrival of the medicines that have been ordered. With the co-operation of the municipal staff, a filariasis survey of the Trivandrum town has been conducted from Mithunam 1105. The Municipality proposes to undertake mosquito-control measures experimentally in one out of the four wards where the survey has been completed. The incidence of filariasis is fairly high, for out of the 6,385 persons examined till the end of Dhanu 1106, 940 proved positive for micro-filaria. With the aid of the cinema and the magic lantern, the Health Educational Officer and the Hook-worm Survey Officers have delivered 436 lectures in various parts of the State to an estimated audience of 190,671 in the aggregate and 2,500 pamphlets on public health have been distributed. The purchase of a cinema film on cholera has been sanctioned.

Medical Relief and Sanitation.

28. The control of the Medical Department continued to be vested in the Administrative Board, Medical Services. The two new dispensaries sanctioned for Ranni and Palode were opened during 1105 and a fever dispensary to be conducted for five months every year from the beginning of Medam was sanctioned to be established at Vellarada. A lady Assistant Surgeon and two lady Sub-Assistant Surgeons and five European nursing sisters have been additionally entertained in the department in 1106. A portable X-ray apparatus has been purchased for the benefit of the public. Miss M. I. Gomez, Assistant Surgeon, who had proceeded to England on study leave to specialise in midwifery and diseases of women and children, has returned after training. Two Sub-Assistant Surgeons in the department have gone to England for higher studies. A nursing class with 14 pupils was opened in the Women and Children's Hospital, Trivandrum, in Edavom 1105. A fresh batch of 18 pupils has been admitted into the midwifery class attached to the Victoria Jubilee Hospital, Quilon; and the question of opening a class for the training of compounders is engaging attention.